Allen County HamNews

Fort Wayne Radio Club — Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society

April 2003 — Volume 4 Issue 4

Special Event Station - 3/22/03

The Special Event Station at the Rally For America went very well on 3/22/03. I want to thank all the operators, and the Hams who stayed behind to help out with relays and connections to Echolink. The names and calls were too numerous for me to include in this article. We were able to make several contacts to troops, and they really expressed thanks for us showing our support. Those who attended the rally really had a great time, and met a lot of great folks. The highlight of the rally was Glenn Beck, the national talk show host heard on WOWO Radio. Sandi Patti sang some great songs also during the rally.

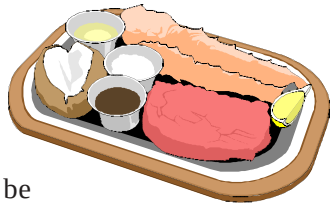
Overall the rally gave Ham Radio a chance to shine both by radio, and Television. We had at least five sessions on local radio stations, and WPTA news ran a very nice story. The rally had about 20,000 people attend from all over the midwest.

Thanks to the Fort Wayne Radio Club, The NE Indiana DX Association, and ACARTS for making this event happen. We will obtain photo's and a copy of the video for club presentations. Also CQ magazine expressed an interest in printing a story in the near future.

73 and God Bless our troops, and America.

KB9IBW, Emery

ACARTS Spring Banquet



The Spring Banquet will be held on Tuesday the 15th at the Ryan's Steak House on Clinton just south of Coliseum Blvd. (across the parking lot from Scotts Foods).

We'll start gathering at 6:30 PM and eat soon there after. ACARTS will cover the cost of the meal for all paid members as of April 1st. Additional guests can also attend, but must be paid for separately, with the cost being $9.28 for adults, and $0.50 per year for kids from 2-12. The food will be good, the conversation great, and it is an excellent opportunity to meet and chat with new and old friends alike. We hope to have a program for after we eat, but that is still being set up.

Reservations are required, so everyone who is planning to attend will have to let either Vic Berko (vberko@juno.com) or Don Gagnon (wb8hqs@arrl.net) know via e-mail, or leave a message on the hamfest line at 484-1314.

Hope to see you there!

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Allen County HamNews is a monthly joint publication of the Fort Wayne Radio Club (P.O. Box 15127, Fort Wayne, IN) and the Allen County Amateur Radio Technical Society (P.O. Box 10342, Fort Wayne, IN).

Please send any articles, corrections, for sale notices, etc. to the editor, Victor Guess, WB9UZA, wb9uza@arrl.net. Please put "for newsletter" in the subject line. Text should be plain ASCII, graphics should be JPEG or GIF. For those computer impaired: snail mail to 3311 Sanibel Drive, Fort Wayne, IN, 46815-4755.

Deadline for May issue is 4/25/2003.
Please do NOT send anything in all caps!!

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Fort Wayne Radio Club:
http://www.fortwayneradioclub.org
ACARTS:
http://www.acarts.com
Ft Wayne DX Association:
http://www.qsl.net/fwdxa/

Hamsplatter

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President's Corner

I believe that everyone is happy that Spring is finally here. And Easter is just around the corner. Let me remind you that since the third Friday of April is Good Friday; the Fort Wayne Radio Club General Meeting is the second Friday of April. The date is Friday April 11th, the time is 7:30 PM , the location is the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church at the corner of Reed Road and Vance Avenue across from Snider High School.

Our thanks to Chad, W9GGA, for his program on formal traffic handling at the March FWRC General Meeting. The program was very informative and the handouts will continue to be helpful. Thanks again, Chad, for your work putting the program together.

In other club business, Saturday May 3rd will be the 1st (but hopefully not the last) annual Fort Wayne Radio Club Nelson's Chicken BBQ Fundraiser. Or as we like to call it "Chickenfest". We will be selling the Nelson's Chicken BBQ on the north side of the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church parking lot. The time will be from 10:00 AM until 2:00 PM. Hopefully we will sell out before that. We will be selling the chicken for $5 for a half chicken. Tell your friends, tell your relatives, come and purchase several halves. We are very excited about the fund-raiser and we need your help. We need at least two groups of four people for a two hour shift of selling chicken. Let anyone on the board know if you can help with this project.

Last weekend Steve, WB9ZIY, organized a work day to get some work done on the club trailer. Steve picked up the trailer Friday night, and work was done during the day on Saturday. We removed everything from the trailer. Then we removed everything from the bins from the trailer. We reorganized and relabeled all of the bins of "stuff" in the trailer. Now we have a bin that is all coax, a bin that is all antenna, a bin that is all rope, etc. You get the picture. Then we eliminated the multiple fuse boxes and made a new electric panel with multiple outlets with circuit breakers. We also did some work on the signs. We were able to eliminate several electric panels, a couple of the large spools of wire, and the steel tower sections and bases. We were able to create a lot of room in the trailer that will help getting equipment in and out of the trailer much more efficiently.

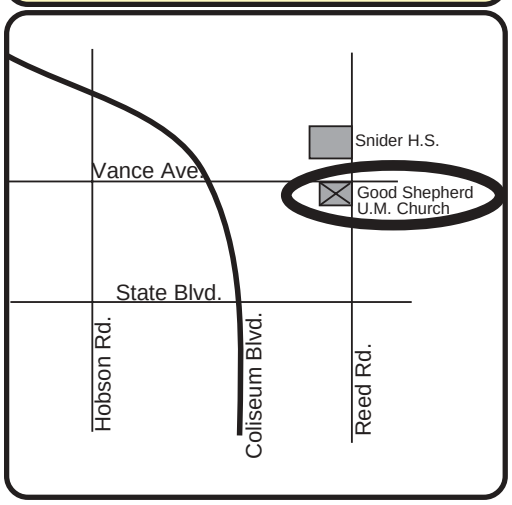
Don't forget that Dayton is only a month and a half away. The FWRC Spring Banquet is a little over a month away. And Field Day is only about two and a half months away. We are planning on being at the Girl Scout Camp again this year, the trailer is ready to go, and we are going to have another great Field Day weekend this year. It will be fun so make sure you a part of the action this year.

Remember the April General Meeting is Friday April 11th. See you there.

Tom / N9TB

Next Meeting:

Fri, April 11, 2003, 7:30 PM
Program: **Foxhunting**
by Carl, N9NRO



FWRC March Minutes

The March 2003 meeting of the Fort Wayne Radio Club was called to order at 7:30 PM on March 14th, 2003 by president Tom Baker, N9TB. After the usual introductions, Tom requested the financial report from treasurer Bob Streeter, W8ST. The financial report is as follows;

Income form dues: $1037.00
Total income: $1180.85
expenses: $266.10
Cash on hand: $78.50
Checking: $457.20
Saving balance: $6523.22

There were no outstanding debts.

The next item of business was the Fox Hunt report which was delivered by Clint, KB9LOF. At the March 2nd fox hunt, the winner was Jim Pliett. The role of the fox was played by Dave, N9LOV, and Carl, N9NRO.

Tom announced that the Major Chords, a vocal group, would be performing at the spring Banquet, on May 9th.

Rich Andrews, N9HRA, reported that he was still working on details of the Field Day site at the Girl Scout camp. At issue was the price, which was considerably higher than last year. It was mentioned that we could order Field Day T-shirts from ARRL, but no action was taken on this point.

March 22 was the announced day for the trailer fix up, but since that the same day as the Rally for America, there was concern that some items in the trailer might be needed for the rally, the amateur radio aspects of which were being organized by Emery, KB9IBW, and Rich, N9HRA.

Two public service events were also discussed. The March of Dimes walk is April 26th, with Chad, W9GGA as contact. The Diabetes walk is in June, and the contact is KB9OZH.

An FWRC fund-raiser is finally scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd, at the GSUMC from 10:00 AM to 2:00 PM. Port-O-Pit chicken, up to 600 halves, will be sold by the club for $5.00 a half, total carry-out.

The code and theory classes at Indiana Tech were doing fine, with a strong and consistent class size. The final class, on March 27th, would be a VEC session, so that pupils could get their ticket or upgrade. However, the special event station scheduled for Memorial Day, had been cancelled. Tom briefly mentioned the PBS 39 volunteer action.

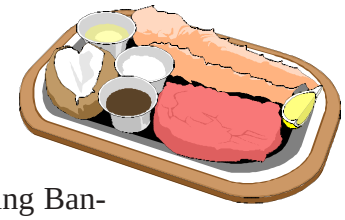
Other items that were discussed are the repeater controller and the disconnection of the Echolink system from the 146.94 machine. Circumstances surrounding this were unclear at this time.

The 50/50 drawing was held at this time, and it was won by Tom, N9TB. Also, 2 tickets to the Toledo hamfest were won by Rich, N9HRA. A vote was then taken on the fund-raisers, which required a considerable down payment. The motion carried unanimously. It was suggested that someone look into city codes that might be enforced on a food based fund-raiser.

The business part of the meeting was adjourned. This was followed by a presentation on the National Traffic System by Chad, W9GGA.

Submitted by Steve Nardin, WB9ZIY, temporary secretary.

Fort Wayne Radio Club Spring Banquet



Well, ladies and gentlemen, it's that time of year again. Time for the Radio Club Spring Banquet. It will be on Friday, May 9, 2003 at the Good Shepherd United Methodist Church at 6:30 P.M. As in the past, it will be a carry-in, so please bring a covered dish to share. The club will provide, table service, napkins, coffee and lemonade. The entertainment will be the Major Chords, a delightful barber shop quartet. We have had them two Christmas parties and we all thoroughly enjoyed them. So, mark your calendars and start thinking of a great dish to bring.

STATE OF THE ARTS

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President's Message

A reminder that the April general meeting is our annual Spring Banquet. The banquet will be held on April 15th, at Ryan's Steakhouse on North Clinton. It is across the parking lot from Scotts. We will start gathering at 6:30 PM, and plan to eat soon there after. See the article about the Spring Banquet for full details.

The weather has finally improved in temperature. Now we can look forward to the severe storms that the warmer weather brings. Sounds like I'll never be satisfied. If you are new to SKYWARN, review the materials that you picked up at the training session. Please use caution during the severe weather. For the rest of you who are not involved with spotting, please observe the proper repeater protocols. When there is an activation of SKYWARN, keep your transmissions short, and leave pauses between transmissions. Better yet, make your contact, and move to the .255 machine.

We are still waiting to have a [wall] pass through done for our club station at Turnstone. Once that is done we can put up antennas and get on the air. With the warmer weather we can put up a vertical, and a few dipoles. Maybe we can have an antenna raising party. Stay turned for those details. Well, that's all for this month. See you at the banquet.

73,
Vic, KA9LTV

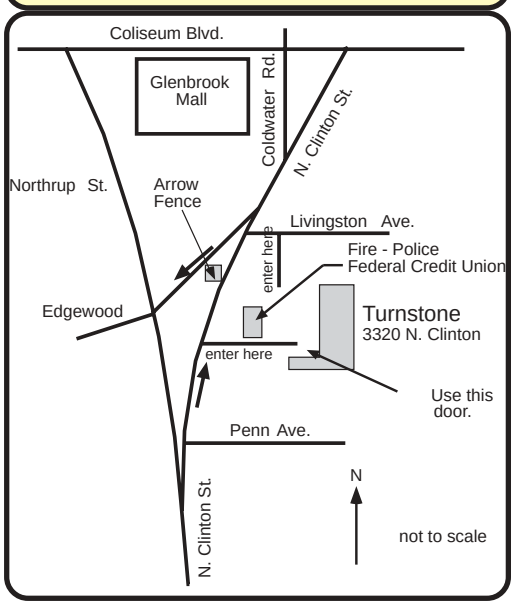
Meeting Schedule

All meetings are at 7:30 PM at Turnstone unless otherwise noted.

ACARTS Spring Banquet: Tue, 3/18/2003, 6:30 PM, Ryan's Steakhouse

Board Meeting: 4/8/2003
All members are encouraged to attend.

Tech Committee: no meeting this month



Li-ion Battery Care

Li-ions should be managed differently from the NiCad or NiMH batteries used in older devices. In particular, Li-ions should not be run all the way down to prevent "memory effect". First, they don't have a memory effect, and second, running them down tends to reduce their capacity. If the device does not need the battery it should be run to about 40% charge and stored in a cool place. Li-ion batteries go bad whether used or not, so only buy new Li-ions. Typical life is 2-3 years.

Li-ion batteries can do bad things if they overheat (creation of Lithum metal which "burns" in water, chance of fire). So Li-ion battery packs have an internal circuit to prevent overcharging (which would cause them to overheat). There can be several functions for the protection circuit, including shutting it down in case of over charging, when the voltage drops to a predefined level, or if it thinks the battery is otherwise damaged.

Isidor Buchmann's website Batteries in a Portable World <http://www.buchmann.ca/toc.asp> discusses Li-ion batteries as well as other types. His 18 chapter online book goes into great detail and is well worth the read. It is free but registration is required.

Summary of excerpts on using Li-ions from Batteries in a Portable World :

Continued on page 6

Job listing – Wanted: ACARTS Activities Manager

Wanted: Activities Manager: Coordinate the social and non-technical events of the organization, provide for presentation of programs at each regular meeting, coordinate activities which provide assistance to persons desiring an Amateur Radio license, coordinate non-emergency public service communications, establish committees as needed to carry out the above activities.

March ACARTS Board Meeting Minutes

The March ACARTS board meeting was called to order by President Vic Berko, KA9LTV at approximately 7:35 PM.

Vic mentioned that the club was still looking for a speaker at the spring banquet and encouraged everyone to come up with ideas for future programs.

Jim Boyer, KB9IH said that the November Fort Wayne Hamfest was still pending executive committee approval from the ARRL as the official state convention. Jim then volunteered to show off his new "Experimental Methods in RF Design" book as the March program.

The meeting was officially adjourned at 8:17 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin, KC9BUR

March ACARTS General Meeting Minutes

The March ACARTS general meeting was called to order by President Vic Berko, KA9LTV at approximately 7:37 PM. It was decided that Ryan's would host the annual spring banquet on April 15th at 6:30 PM. Vic mentioned that ACARTS will cover the meal for all members.

Don Gagnon, WB8HQS volunteered to show some of the pictures he took with his fancy new camera while in Australia and New Zealand.

Jim Boyer, KB9IH then showed off all of his RF and Microwave books that ranged from 1917 to 2003. Some modern receiver design methods as well as the evolution of RF and Microwave books were discussed.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:55 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Kevin, KC9BUR

FWDXA

Ft Wayne DX Association

Where Do You Get Information About DX Operations? By Carl Luetzelschwab K9LA

"Hey, Grandpa - tell me one of your stories about when you were a kid - you know, one of those telling how rough you had it."

"Ok. Here's one that's related to Amateur Radio. Would you believe that when I first got interested in DXing, I had to actually sit down and listen on the radio to find out what DX was on?"

"Wow - that was rough, Grandpa. How'd you ever find the time to do that?"

We've come a long way since those days. We really don't have to sit at the radio, tune the bands, and identify each station to see who it is anymore. Nowadays there's a lot of media out there to find out who's on - and even who was on and who will be on.

What first sprang up to disseminate DX information was spotting nets on 2m FM. A local group of DXers would leave their 2m FM rigs on a specific frequency, and they'd call in the DX they heard or worked so everyone would be aware of it. 2m FM eventually gave way to the printed media and the Internet.

The DX Magazine is the premier printed media about DX. It is snail-mailed every two months. It has DX stories, DX hints, QSL routes, propagation articles, and much more. Carl N4AA publishes this one, and info about it can be found at www.dxpub.com.

There are several bulletins that are available via e-mail. One is The Daily DX by Bernie W3UR. It comes as an e-mail every morning Monday through Friday, with special editions for special events. It usually runs from 4 to 8 pages. For info on this bulletin, check out www.dailydx.com. Bernie also has a weekly version.

Another e-mail bulletin is QRZ DX by Carl N4AA (The DX Magazine guy). It is e-mailed every Wednesday as a pdf attachment. It's usually 4 pages, and talks about DX news, IOTA (Islands On The Air) news, lists what DX was heard during the previous week on all the HF bands, has a DXpedition calendar, and has QSL routes and information. Info about it is also at www.dxpub.com.

There's an Internet reflector moderated by the North Jersey DX Association that has DX information and allows discussion about DX events. Go to www.njdxa.org/dx-news for info about this one.

These certainly aren't the only DX information sources available to us. These are simply the ones I'm familiar with.

If you're only interested in who is on now, the best way to do that is to monitor PacketCluster. Essentially everyone around the country (or even around the world) becomes your ears for spotting DX stations. Jim KR9U runs the node in the Ft Wayne area, and you can contact Jim at kr9u@arrl.net for information on this.

I think it's good we have all of this information available to us. But every once in a while I fondly look back on the days when you actually had to get intimately involved to work DX. There was no better way to learn about propagation on a band and DX habits than to actually spend time listening

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Li-Ion Batteries – Continued from page 5

• There is no memory and no scheduled cycling is required to prolong the battery's life.
• The typical life span of a Li-ion battery is two to three years, whether it is used or not.
• The internal resistance of the Li-ion batteries cannot be improved with cycling. The cell oxidation, which causes high resistance, is non-reversible. The electrolyte slowly eats up the positive plate and the electrolyte decays. This chemical change causes the internal resistance to increase. In time, the cell resistance raises to a point where the battery can no longer deliver the energy.
• The recommended storage temperature of a lithium-based battery is 15°C (59°F) or less. A charge level of 40 percent allows for some self-discharge that naturally occurs; and 15°C is a practical and economical storage temperature that can be achieved without expensive climate control systems.

Simple Guidelines:
• Charge the Li-ion often, except before a long storage.
• Store at about 40% charge in a cool place
• Avoid repeated deep discharges.
• Keep the Li-ion battery cool.
• Prevent storage in a hot car.
• Never freeze a battery.
• If your laptop is capable of running without a battery and fixed power is used most of the time, remove the battery and store it in a cool place.
• Avoid purchasing spare Li-ion batteries for later use.
• Observe manufacturing date when purchasing.
• Do not buy old stock, even if sold at clearance prices.

Severe Weather Notes: Training Sessions - Local/Advanced; Large Hail - by Joel Tye, KB9RH

Thanks to everyone who attended the storm spotter training session on Friday, February 21 which was hosted by Fort Wayne Radio Club. Kevin Barjenbruch of the National Weather Service presented the latest storm spotting information, as well as some videos of the Van Wert tornadoes. A very informative meeting.

During the training, Kevin made a statement that I believe needs to be repeated: report only what YOU are observing. No secondhand reports from scanners or the broadcast media. (Reports from spotters in 10 other counties are relayed into our local net by designated liaison stations. This is the only exception.)

And something I might add: don't pick up the microphone and tell us the tornado sirens have been turned on. We already know that because we can hear them, and that information is of no use to the National Weather Service.

Our first severe weather event of the season was on Thursday March 20. Earlier in the day, the Storm Prediction Center placed all of Indiana in a "slight" risk area for severe thunderstorms, and shortly after 2:00 PM, a Severe Thunderstorm Watch was issued for most of our area. At that time, the freezing level had lowered to 6000 feet, which meant only one thing: hail, and lots of it.

That is exactly what happened. Spotters called in numerous reports of hail, some larger than 3/4 inch. According to our reports, the main concentration of hail was from north of Roanoke through the west and northwest sides of Fort Wayne, and continuing northeast into Dekalb County. Yours truly got into some large hail on US 30 west of I-69. There was so much hail that when it stopped, I got out of the car and made a snowball! Have never done that before.

A big "thank you" to all the spotters who called in reports that afternoon, and to Bill WD9HII who served as net control.

On Saturday March 15th, several of us attended the Advanced Training seminar at Elkhart High School. There were 38 people from Allen County who preregistered; this was the second-highest number of any county in the 37-county warning area. Good for us!

This is the first time the advanced material has been presented in our area. Dr. David Arnold of Ball State University gave a very detailed discussion of meteorological aspects of severe thunderstorms. Other speakers were Chris Novy WA9V who presented tips on spotting, Sam Lashley of the National Weather Service, and Dr. Chuck Doswell, a senior researcher at the University of Oklahoma. These gentlemen presented a huge amount of good information, and I would like to pass along some of their observations. Some of these may appear to be obvious - this further stresses their importance:

SKYWARN

1. When spotting, the #1 priority is your own personal safety.

2. Never underestimate the dangers of lightning. (This reminds me of when I used to have a 5/8 wave mag-mount antenna on top of my Jeep. Excellent lightning rod!).

3. When mobile spotting, always have a planned escape route. This is normally at right angles to the storm.

4. Be "situationally aware" of the storm environment. Check out the convective outlooks, know what type of severe weather is expected, know the speed and direction of storm movement. (This is additional information the net controls can pass along, and in the future we will certainly attempt to do so).

5. If you have the time, get in your vehicle and do some spotting on a day when thunderstorms are NOT severe. This will provide a good mental database for the times when storms are severe.

6. There is a trade-off between visibility and safety. You be the judge.

7. Warnings don't save lives - actions do.

8. When spotting, always start with the premise that there is no tornado (or wall cloud, or whatever), and build your own case. If you're still not sure, say so when making your report. If you don't know what to look for and what questions to ask yourself before making a determination, then you shouldn't be out there.

9. Always look for "motion".

10. Reports need to be timely, accurate, and specific. Think before you speak into the microphone.

11. Remember to stay on frequency for a few minutes in case the radar operator requests any additional information.

Continued on page 8

Weather Notes, Continued from page 7

12. Expect the unexpected. In the field, you won't see what is shown at the spotter training session. Every severe weather event is different.

13. If you can't see it, it can kill you (rain-wrapped tornadoes).

14. Keep radio chatter to a minimum and report only what meets reporting criteria. (This especially applies from the time the watch is issued until we bring up a formal net or are activated by NWS).

As if that wasn't enough advice, it's my turn to step on the soapbox and make some personal observations:

1. When attending a training session (be it storm spotting or whatever), bring a notebook, pen, and take notes! There are reasons for having spotter training sessions every year: first, to present the latest information. This changes every year because of the continuing research into severe thunderstorms. The second reason is to refresh everyone's memory.

At the advanced training seminar, Dr. Doswell noted that most people mentally absorb only 10 to 20 percent of the information presented at training sessions. Take notes and keep going over them until you understand. That way, you can bring the 10/20 percent up to 90 or even 100 percent. Dr. Doswell added that the National Weather Service is not trying to turn everyone into meteorologists, they just want you to be good spotters. You're not going to be a good spotter without knowledge.

2. Being "situationally aware" of the storm environment means listening to 162.55 before turning on your 2 meter radio. Better yet, if you have Internet capability, you can access several sites and get the real "poop" on what's going on. Some of the information can be quite technical, but it's better to have too much information than not enough. If you're "situationally aware", you won't get on the repeater and say dumb things or ask stupid questions.

3. When we talk about storm spotting, we are dealing with what happens before and during the storm. If there is a disaster, you also need to think about being prepared for becoming involved in that aspect of the operation. If you have any questions about disaster and recovery operations, please direct them to Howard N9ADS or Bill WD9HII. They're the experts on this, and they work closely with local emergency management officials.

I hope all of you had the chance to listen to the Van Wert repeater after the tornadoes touched down on November 10. Even though I was not personally involved in that operation, simply listening to their radio traffic and their handling of the situation was a good learning experience for me.

Now it's time for a quiz: here's some questions about the information presented at our local training session. How many can you answer correctly?

1. You are observing a thunderstorm with a rather impressive tower. The storm is rather fuzzy in appearance. Is this storm likely to become severe? Why or why not?

2. Mammatus clouds by themselves are not dangerous, but they may be an indication of something that may happen shortly. What is it?

3. The sky has a greenish tint. What does this mean?

4. There is a cloud formation at the leading edge of a squall line that is moving away from the storm. What is it called and is it dangerous?

5. You are observing a tornado and notice that it has shrunk to the "rope" stage. Whew! The worst part is over. True or false?

Here are the answers:

1. Probably not. A "fuzzy" appearance indicates a weak updraft.

2. A downburst

3. You may be near an area of hail.

4. Shelf cloud; generally not dangerous but there may be strong straight-line winds associated with it.

5. False. Other tornadoes may develop from the same storm (these usually develop to the southwest of the first tornado).

Wow! I've gotten a bit long-winded this month, but there's been a lot to report. Hope everyone is ready because it's that time of year....

from Joel KB9RH

For Sale & Wanted

Wanted:

• Old Magnavox radios, 30's through 80's, table and or portables models only please.

• Heathkit Power supply. These power supply were used with the old Heathkits HW12 and or HW101. I would like Heathkits only no home brews.

KB9OS, Larry Temenoff, TEMENOFF@ipfw.edu, 260-490-3089

• • •

For Sale:

• 19" rack mount cabinet. Good shape. N connector on top and buss way inside. Front and back doors. Blower and key included. $20 pick up only in Fort Wayne.

• Heathkit SB-102 station with extras. Two (2) SB-102 radios, one in good shape the other in fair to good shape. Paint and grime are the major cosmetic issues. Both radios power up, transmit and receive. Both radios will need cleaning and alignment. The primary radio also has the CW filter installed. Panels and knobs are in good shape. No Dings, dents or serious scratches. Heathkit Power Supply. SB-600 SpeakerHeathkit Desk Mic. DC supply and mobile mount (fair condition). Manuals and cables. Price: $450 (Pick up only)

• Icom speaker mic model HM-46 in very good condition. Price: $10

• Drake SPR-4 Communications receiver. Excellent mechanical and cosmetic condition. All but three crystal positions filled. Includes the optional calibrator and original manual. Price: $325 (Pick up only)

Mike Stover, W9MWS, (260) 485-7448, w9mws@arrl.net.

NOTE: For Sale & Wanted items will be listed for 2 months only unless the ad is resubmitted. If you sell an item the first month, please contact the editor so the item can be removed.

UK To AK On 136 kHz

from *The ARRL Letter* – Reaching Alaska from the United Kingdom using just 1 W ERP is quite a feat for any band, but the Radio Society of Great Britain reports that Laurie Mayhead, G3AQC, was heard in Alaska on 136 kHz. In the early hours of February 15, he transmitted to Laurence Howell, GM4DMA/KL1X in Anchorage, and just before UK dawn at 0615 his call sign was clearly identified using software to read the signal.

G3AQC was using QRSS—very slow CW—with a 60-second-long dit. The 7278-km distance is a transmission record for 1 W ERP on 136 kHz.

Two years ago, Mayhead and Larry Kayser, VA3LK, made ham radio history when they completed the first two-way transatlantic exchange on 136 kHz, also using very slow speed CW. Last year G3AQC became the first person to span the Atlantic on 73 kHz.

Howell expressed surprise that the path involved in the latest accomplishment is "notoriously poor" between southeastern Alaska, on the east coast of the Pacific, and Europe. "The signal would theoretically go on a Great Circle route to nearly 80 degrees north, over the northern Canadian Arctic, northern Greenland, east of Iceland, Glasgow, then over the UK to the South Coast—across and through the auroral oval."

He said there's speculation that the actual path might been around or even under the auroral zone, since there was no auroral Doppler seen on the received signal. Howell and Mayhead credited research and preparation carried out by G3NYK, G3LDO, W3EEE and W4DEX, for helping to set the new LF record.—RSGB

Regional Hamfests

Date	Location	Contact Phone	URL or E-mail
12 Apr 2003	Columbus, IN	812-342-4670	carc_in@yahoo.com
16-18 May 2003	Dayton, OH		http://www.hamvention.org/
25 May 2003	Chicago, IL	773-908-5331	http://www.chicagoarc.com
8 Jun 2003	Wabash Hamfest	260-569-1191	jknetro@kconline.com
15 June 2003	Crown Point, IN	219-662-0594	http://www.qsl.net/w9lj/index.html
15 June 2003	Monroe, MI	734-242-9487	http://mcrca.org/hamfest.htm

For more complete information go to http://www.acarts.com/hamfests.htm or http://www.arrl.org/hamfests.html#listing

Test Points

10-Apr-2003
Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: LYLE L LONG
(574)875-8455
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER
HOMAN BUILDING
GREENCROFT BLVD
GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CTR
GOSHEN, IN 46525

26-Apr-2003
Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
Contact: ROBERT E HIGH
(419)795-5763
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA BLDG
1220 EAST RIDGE RD
VAN WERT, OH 45891

03-May-2003
Sponsor: FORT WAYNE VE TEAM
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: WILLIAM C HALL
(260)485-3995
Email: WD9HII@ARRL.NET
VEC: W5YI VEC
Location:
FORT WAYNE/ALLEN CTY PUB LIB
6600 E STATE BLVD
GEORGETOWN BRANCH
FORT WAYNE, IN 46815

13-May-2003
Sponsor: LAND OF LAKES ARC (K9HD)
Time: 6:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: GENE A DIEHL
(260)495-5715
Email: N9LCF@LOCL.NET
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: PLEASANT LAKE FIRE DEPT
PLEASANT LAKE, IN 46779

24-May-2003
Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
Time: 2:00 PM (No walk-ins)
Contact: ROBERT E HIGH
(419)795-5763
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: EMA BLDG
1220 EAST RIDGE RD
VAN WERT, OH 45891

31-May-2003
Sponsor: W5YI-VEC — WHITLEY COUNTY ARC
Time: 9:00 AM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: ROGER L MC ENTARFER
(219)691-3009
Email: N9QCL@ARRL.NET
VEC: W5YI VEC
Location:
BASEMENT MEETING ROOM
101 W MARKET ST - SUITE C
WHITLEY COUNTY JAIL
COLUMBIA CITY, IN 46725

10-Jul-2003
Sponsor: GOSHEN ARC
Time: 7:00 PM (Walk-ins allowed)
Contact: LYLE L LONG
(574)875-8455
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CENTER
HOMAN BUILDING
GREENCROFT BLVD
GREENCROFT RETIREMENT CTR
GOSHEN, IN 46525

20-Jul-2003
Sponsor: UNSPONSORED
Time: 9:00 AM (No walk-ins)
Contact: ROBERT E HIGH
(419)795-5763
VEC: ARRL/VEC
Location: VAN WERT COUNTY FAIRGROUNDS
FAIR BOARD OFFICE
1055 S WASHINGTON ST
VAN WERT, OH 45891

ECHO LINK Info

ECHO LINK NODE:
maintained by: KB9RLW
Simplex Frequency: 145.700 FM only
Node number: 16686
Random connection: dial “00”
Hang up or disconnect: dial “#”
Identify: dial “*”

This node can occasionally be connect to the 146.94 repeater.

Membership Application for ❒ FWRC - and/or - ❒ ACARTS

Name: _____ Call sign: _____ License class: _____

Street address: _____ City: _____

State: ____ ZIP : _____-[4]_____ Phone #: (_____) _____-_____ Unlisted? ❒ Yes

Email address: _____ ARRL Member? ❒ Yes

May we list your name, call & email address in our membership roster and on our club web site? ❒ Yes ❒ No

Both clubs now offer this newsletter as a downloadable (Adobe Acrobat) PDF file, in lieu of a paper copy sent through the mail. For FWRC a mailed paper newsletter is a $6.00/yr. premium.
How would you like your newsletter delivered? ❒ by snail mail ❒ download from web site.

Fort Wayne Radio Club Dues

Regular membership	❒ $15.00 / year
Family membership [1]	❒ $21.00 / year
Student membership [2]	❒ $6.00 / year
Associate membership [3]	❒ $15.00 / year
Mailed newsletter	❒ $6.00 / year

(Memberships for Jul - Dec are 1/2 the stated amounts.)

A.C.A.R.T.S. Dues

Regular membership	❒ $12.00 / year
Additional family members [1]	❒ $6.00 / year
Student membership [2]	❒ $6.00 / year
Associate membership [3]	❒ $6.00 / year

(New Regular memberships are $1/month)

1. **Please list all names and calls on an attached sheet.**
2. **K-12 or full time student**
3. **unlicensed member**
4. **9 digit ZIP code required for US bulk mail**

Please attach a check (number _____) for the appropriate amount and bring to a club meeting or mail to:

Fort Wayne Radio Club
PO Box 15127
Fort Wayne, IN 46885

A.C.A.R.T.S.
PO Box 10342
Fort Wayne, IN 46851

For dual membership, fill out both sides and send 2 checks to either club. **Payment by check is strongly encouraged!**

ACARTS Voice Repeaters

146.880 (-)	General use / Skywarn priority
147.255 (+)	General use / Autopatch priority
443.800 (+)	General use

(All repeaters have autopatch, but 88 has only speed dial emergency #'s.)

ACARTS Digital Repeaters (digipeaters)

144.390 (s)	APRS - wide
145.010 (s)	General use, NETROM (FWA) - wide
223.660 (s)	BBS use ONLY NETROM (FWA220) - wide

Fort Wayne Radio Club Repeaters

Voice:	146.76 (-)	General use
	146.94 (-)	General use with autopatch
	146.91 (-)	Autopatch only
	444.875 (+)	General use
ATV:	439.25 In, 910.250 Out, 144.340 Audio & control	

Area Traffic Nets

(please submit any changes or corrections to the editor)

IMO: meets nightly at 6:30 p.m. (2330 UTC) on 146.88

Auburn: meets Mon., Tue., Wed., Thur., Fri., & Sat. at 6 p.m. (2300 UTC) on 147.36(+)

21 Repeater Group: meets each Wednesday at 9 p.m. (0200 UTC) on 147.150

Helping Hands Net: Mondays @ 9:00 p.m. 146.94(-)

Miscellaneous Nets

Huntington ARES: Saturday at 8:00 p.m. (0100 UTC) on 146.685

Whitley Co. / ARES: Wednesdays at 7:15 p.m. (0015 UTC) on 145.270 (Note 131.8 PL disabled for all nets)

Whitley Co. Sunday: Sundays at 7:45 p.m. (0045 UTC) on 444.550 +. (The 146.460 simplex crossbanding from both nets has been dropped.)

Six Meter AM net (informal): Every Saturday night at 7:00 p.m. and Sunday at 8:30 p.m. on 50.580 MHz .

Allen County HamNews
PO BOX 10342
FORT WAYNE, IN 46851

TO:

Activities Calendar

Date	Time	Event	Place
4/1/03	7:00 PM	FWRC board meeting	GSUMC
4/8/03	7:30 PM	ACARTS board meeting	Turnstone Center
4/11/03	7:30 PM	FWRC general meeting	GSUMC
4/15/03	6:30 PM	ACARTS Spring Banquet	Ryan's Steakhouse
4/25/03		deadline for May ACHN items	
4/29/03	7:00 PM	FWRC board meeting	GSUMC
5/3/03	10:00 AM - 2:00 PM	FWRC Chicken Sale	GSUMC
5/9/03	6:30 PM	FWRC Spring Banquet	GSUMC
5/13/03	7:30 PM	ACARTS board meeting	Turnstone Center
5/20/03	7:30 PM	ACARTS general meeting	Turnstone Center
6/6/03		deadline for June ACHN items	
6/28-29/03		Field Day	